SHADOW RAIDERS I

Episode 20
'Timebomb'

ENGLISH DIALOGUE SCRIPT

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ACT ONE

FADE IN:

EXT. DEEP SPACE

We open on the entire Alliance Fleet -- ROCK, ICE, BONE, SAND -- and most of its flotilla as it moves INTO FRAME then OUT again. A moment later, THE AURORA and a bunch of smaller Alliance fighter ships ROAR INTO SCENE, in a fierce dogfight with a pursuing squad of BEAST DRONE SHIPS.

GRAVEHEART
(9) Graveheart to the Alliance, continue your current course. We'll divert the drones towards that unidentified planet up ahead.

Inside the Aurora, Cryos looks up to a series of view screens which display Graveheart, Jade and the Beast Planet.

CRYOS
(10) Understood my friend.(to the crew of the ship) Everybody hold tight!

The bridge crew looks to Cryos and he nods. They ready themselves. All but Femur, who keeps complaining.

FEMUR
(11) Hey, I thought we already had us a good plan. We're gonna run away, right?

Cryos suddenly yanks the controls hard to the right.

CRYOS
(12) Think again.

EXT. SPACE

As the rest of the Alliance Fleet continues on, the Aurora and the other fighter ships all at once veer towards the planet in the distance. This is PLANET JUNGLE.

Jade's Blade Wing heads straight for the Beast Drones. Graveheart's ship executes a high arc so that the two ships will approach the Beast Drone squadron from above and below.

GRAVEHEART
(13) On my signal...ready...NOW!!

Suddenly, the Aurora turns and heads back for the squadron, returning Beast Ship fire even as explosions rock the ship.

INT. THE AURORA - BRIDGE

The crew continues to return fire as we see Femur, who hadn't grabbed anything for support, thrown by an explosion. He goes arcing and smacks against a bulkhead.

All the rest of the crew is hanging on to something for support.

FEMUR
(14) (startled HOWL, then grunt of IMPACT)

EXT. SPACE

The Aurora "walks" a strafing pattern into the Drones, as Graveheart's and Jade's ships approach from above and below.

JADE
(15) Got them in my sights!

Jade and Graveheart, supported by the other Alliance fighters, take out the Drone ships.

GRAVEHEART (VO)
(16) That’s it...take Ôem down!

Jade and Graveheart pass each other from opposite directions as they move through the debris.

One Drone Ship escapes, racing away out into deeper space.

INT. AURORA - BRIDGE

Cryos and Tekla check their stations as they talk.

CRYOS
(18) Any sign of more Beast Drones?

TEKLA
(19) None. At least so far.

INT. GRAVEHEART IN THE BLADEWING

GRAVEHEART
(17) That did it. Let’s head home

INT. ON FEMUR

He is upsidedown. His eyes are going around in circles.

FEMUR
(dazed, mumbling)
(20) Yes, Mother, I'd love a nice piece of...huh?

Femur still woozy from the flight, unknowingly bumps into Zuma. Startled, he focuses his blurry eyes to see her staring down on him.

FEMUR (CONT'D)
(21) Okay, that's it. From now on, I'm demandin' seatbelts.

TEKLA
(22) At least we are still in one piece.

Graveheart enters the bridge.

GRAVEHEART
(23) For now. Just don't forget the Beast Planet is still hot on our heels.

CRYOS
(24) Excellent point. Which brings us to that new world ahead. If it is populated, we must warn them that the Beast is coming.

TEKLA
(25) Scanning the planet now. No sentient life that I can detect...though it does appear to have a World Engine.

GRAVEHEART
(26) If we're lucky, it'll keep the Beast Planet occupied while we put a lot of distance between us and the Armada.

FEMUR
(27) Excuse me...

Fermur jumps up and down trying to put in his 2 cents to no avail.

CRYOS
(28) That is certainly a possibility, though I fail to see the point of --

FEMUR
(29) I said...EXCUSE ME!

Femur jumps up onto the console to be noticed.

JADE
(30) We've no time now for your whining, toad.

FEMUR

(31) Hey, if you can all quit yer belly-aching for a minute, I'm having me one of my patented brilliant ideas.

CRYOS
(32) Not again.

FEMUR
(33) Look, like it or not, that bright green mudball is gonna be brunch for the big Beastie, right?

GRAVEHEART
(34) So?

FEMUR
(35) So what say we take advantage of that --use the planet as, say, a nifty little booby-trap?

FAVORING GRAVEHEART - as he considers the possibilities.

GRAVEHEART
(36) Y'know, that just might be worth a shot.

TEKLA
(37) I do not understand.

GRAVEHEART
(38) We have to find some way to rig the planet's World Engine so that it explodes inside the Beast.

Femur rubs his hands in anticipation, and his smile broadens.

FEMUR

(39) Yeah, Beastie takes a bite and -- KABOOM! Might just put big, black and ugly off solid foods...permanently.

It's suddenly quiet as everyone considers this.

CRYOS
(40) Though it astonishes me to say so, Femur...well done.

FEMUR

(41) Hey, you don't have to sound so surprised, Cryos. I didn't get to be emperor for nothin', y'know!

JADE
(42) How much did it cost you?

FEMUR
(43)Oh cute, doll. Real cute.

Graveheart announces his plans to the room.

GRAVEHEART
(44) We'll need supplies. Enough explosive material, for example...

FEMUR
(45) No sweat, ace. I got enough stuff stashed away to vaporize a galaxy.

GRAVEHEART
(46) The proper drilling equipment...

JADE
(47) Already aboard the Strata.

GRAVEHEART
(48) ...Survey vehicles...

CRYOS
(49) I will have Ice Mites loaded immediately.

GRAVEHEART
(50) Does any one have a problem with us sacrificing this world to save our own?

Everyone hangs their heads. Cryos steps forward.

CRYOS
(51) I believe we all see the irony, my friend. Do we have any other choice?

The others look at one another, embarrassed, then back at Graveheart, who takes command as usual.

GRAVEHEART
(52) Then let's get moving. Even money says Blokk already has more Drones on the way to finish us off.

INT. BLOKK'S COMMAND-SHIP

BLOKK sits in his command-chair, watching the approaching Drone ship.

BLOKK
(53) Those Alliance fools are taking a heavy toll on my Drones, but no matter...

BLOKK (CONT'D)
(54) This time, I promise you -- the Alliance will finally fall!

CUT TO:

EXT. PLANET JUNGLE

Leaving the Aurora in orbit, THE STRATA nears the planet, then flies over its surface, looking for a place to land. The whole area is densely covered with lush green foliage.

GRAVEHEART (VO)
(55) This planet, it's covered with plant life, I'm surprise that there's nothing else living here.

EXT. PLANET SURFACE - REVERSE ANGLE

to watch the STRATA as it lands, using its afterburners to deliberately burn enough foliage to clear a landing site.

JADE (VO)
(56) It is so different from Rock...so green.

EXT. THE STRATA

as the huge doors to the ship lower, armed Quarriors lead the pack in case of any surprises. They are followed by the Alliance and assorted heavy equipment.

FEMUR
(57) Kind'a reminds me of home, though it could really use a good gardener.

CRYOS
(58) It is truly quite...breathtaking. To destroy such a world...

GRAVEHEART
(59) I wish there was another way, but this may be our only chance.

JADE

(60) Enough sightseeing. We have work to do.

Graveheart turns to Tekla and Zuma.

GRAVEHEART
(61) Tekla, Zuma, if this planet has a World Engine, it also has a Telepod. Find it. We can use it to teleport the explosives.

ZUMA (WITH ECHO)
(62) We will help as best we can.

Graveheart turns to Cryos.

GRAVEHEART
(63) And keep an eye out for sentient life. Cryos, and I will do the same.
(looks to Cryos)
Just to make sure.

Finally, Graveheart turns to face Jade and Femur.

GRAVEHEART (cont'd)
(64) Jade, you and Femur oversee the drilling operation. If we can't find the Telepod, we still have to reach the World Engines.

Femur sidles up to Jade, and bravely tries to lace his hand on her rocky butt.

FEMUR
(65) Don't worry, Rocko, me an' the babe got everything well in hand.

Suddenly, Jade grabs Femur's wrist and flips him through the air toward a startled Graveheart.

JADE
(66) Move that hand, toad, or lose it.

Femur looks up to Jade with a big smile.

FEMUR
(67) (Startled GASP!)

Femur lands on his butt right at Graveheart's feet.

GRAVEHEART
(68) New plan. Femur comes with us.

FEMUR

(69) Bad idea, Rocko. Jungles give me cooties.

Graveheart looks at the assembled teams

GRAVEHEART
(71) Alright the clock is ticking, people. Let's get to work. There's nothing here to stop us.

As our heroes unload their various vehicles, we see the foliage slowly start to MOVE toward them, silent, menacing.

FADE OUT.

END ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

EXT. DEEP SPACE

as the BEAST ARMADA, led by Blokk's command-ship, moves through space, on its way to intercept the Alliance. Far behind it looms the shadow of the BEAST PLANET.

EXT. DEEP JUNGLE

Riding Ice Mites, Graveheart, Cryos, and Femur move through the underbrush dramatically.

FEMUR
(72) Okay, so how're we supposed to know if this weed farm is inhabited or not?

CRYOS
(73) Perhaps you could try using your eyes for once, rather than your mouth.

FEMUR
(74) That a slam, Frosty?

Femur raises up and slams head on into a hanging branch, falling from the Ice Mite.

CRYOS
(75) No, merely a hopeful suggestion.

GRAVEHEART
(76) Keep alert. There's something about this place that just doesn't feel right.

As our heroes move on, some of the foliage rises up and MOVES, turning as if following their progress.

EXT. STRATA LANDING SITE

Jade looks around at the foliage, which is already encroaching on their encampment. She shakes off the bad feeling and turns to the Strata.

JADE (cont'd)
(77) Miners, Quarriors, let's get to work.

Suddenly, the ground starts RUMBLING slightly, and a MULEDOZER loaded with a large SONIC CANNON rolls from the Strata's open hatch, flanked by several MINERS and QUARRIORS.

She looks around again while the ÔDozer rumbles past behind her. Has the foliage moved, or is it just her imagination?

JADE (cont'd)
(78) The sooner we are done here, the better.

INT. ANOTHER PART OF THE JUNGLE

Tekla and Zuma move through the underbrush sharing a vehicle, Voxx hovers beside Tekla, scanning the area.

TEKLA
(79) Any trace of our target, Voxx?

VOXX
(80) Scanning. Telepod not detected.

ZUMA (WITH ECHO)
(81) You call this planet lifeless, child, and yet it teems with life.

Tekla looks at Zuma, trying to explain.

TEKLA
(82) Yes, but with plant life, primitive life. There is a difference.

ZUMA (WITH ECHO)

(83) Is there? On our world, the Sun People thought us primitive. Would you have sacrificed us as easily?

Tekla becomes a little defensive.

TEKLA
(84) We're doing what we have to do, Zuma, for the sake of all our worlds. But, believe me, we regret it.

ZUMA (WITH ECHO)
(85) Then perhaps that can be of some small comfort....

VOXX
(interrupting)
(86) Telepod technology has been detected.

Tekla, frankly, is thankful for the interruption.

TEKLA
(87) Excellent, Voxx. Show us the way.
EXT. DEEP JUNGLE

Their Ice Mites almost completely tangled in vines, Femur, Cryos, and Graveheart come to an awkward halt.

FEMUR
(88) Okay, now what?

They exit their vehicles and start making their way through the undergrowth on foot, clearing a path.

GRAVEHEART
(89) Now we go on foot.

FEMUR
(90) You're kidding, right?

As Graveheart and Cryos press on, Femur pauses for a moment, studying a hole in the ground.

CRYOS
(91) Femur, time is precious. What are you doing?

Femur pulls a small, round object from his belt, presses a button on its side, then drops it into the hole.

FEMUR
(92) Just trying a little experiment.

Femur then leaps toad-like over the other two, and dives behind a tall rock that rises up through the vines and mist.

FEMUR
(93) Fire in the hole!

GRAVEHEART
(startled)
(94) What?!

Graveheart and Cryos look at each other in confusion for a beat, then they dive behind the rock to join Femur. The area is rocked by a powerful EXPLOSION, scattering dust everywhere.

EXT. STRATA LANDING SITE

The SONIC CANNON has been aimed straight down at the center of the clearing. Jade shouts to the Quarriors, who back away as the Miners prepare to fire the cannon. No one has noticed but the jungle has reclaimed even more of the cleared area.

JADE
(95) Clear the area!

Jade stands back as the cannon is activated. With a brief THRUM of the machine, the sound blast hammers the earth, throwing up a cloud of dust.

DOWN ANGLE

Jade stands with several miners, looking down at the hole the blast made. It's round, perfect, about a hundred feet deep.

JADE
(97) Not bad. With luck, we should reach the World Engines by --

Suddenly, Jade’s WRIST-COMM starts BEEPING insistently. Jade raises her wrist to speak.

JADE
(impatiently)
(98) Yes?

ICE WARRIOR (VO)
(99) Aurora Here. There’s trouble. We’ve scanned the Beast Armada heading your way.

JADE
(100) Again? So quickly?

Jade turns to the Quarriors.

JADE (cont'd)
(101) Graveheart must be alerted.

Then she turns back to the Miners.

JADE
(102) Increase power to the cannon. We need that hole dug now.

The whine of the engines goes up a notch. Jade watches as the drilling continues. The clock is ticking and she knows it.

INT. DEEP JUNGLE

Getting back to his feet, Cryos is furious with Femur.

CRYOS
(103) Are you completely mad? You could have killed us all.

FEMUR
(104) Hey, just doing my job, pal! I had to know if my bombs are gonna work, right?

Femur pulls another explosive from his belt, tossing it up and down in his hand. Cryos screams with anger.

FEMUR (cont'd)
(105) Yeah, the full-size version of these babies'll do just fine.

Cryos races for Femur. Graveheart steps forward between the two.

GRAVEHEART
(106)Look we're here to do a job, remember?

Cryos dusts himself off, regaining his composure.

CRYOS
(107) Yes. Of course. Forgive my outburst. It appears even my patience has its limits.

As Graveheart and Cryos move on, Femur starts to turn to head back the way they came.

FEMUR
(108) If that's the way you gonna be about it, fine. I know where I'm not want --

But as Femur moves, we PAN DOWN to see that there are VINES wrapping themselves around his stubby legs.

With a jerk, the vines SUDDENLY TIGHTEN...

FEMUR (cont'd)
(startled)
(109) -- Hey!

Graveheart and Cryos spin about just in time to see a struggling Femur being quickly dragged into the undergrowth. His SCREAMS echoing through the jungle.

EXT. JUNGLE - TELEPOD SITE

as Tekla, Zuma, and Voxx exit their vehicle near the Telepod, to find it basically overgrown with vines.

VOXX
(110) Telepod directly ahead.

TEKLA
(111) Quickly, we have to clear it.

Tekla steps forward and starts to clear away as much of the underbrush as she can. Zuma joins in, using her telekinesis to levitate several vines away from the Telepod. Finally, Voxx joins in, using his laser to clear away more vines.

Voxx slices one vine with his laser, and Zuma FLINCHES in pain.

TEKLA
(112) Zuma, are you all right?

ZUMA (WITH ECHO)
(113) We...feel a sense of pain...of loss...

Suddenly, Zuma turns and rushes off into the underbrush.

ZUMA (WITH ECHO)
(114) Forgive us, child...but we are needed elsewhere...

TEKLA
(115) Zuma?

But Zuma is already gone. Tekla turns to Voxx.

VOXX
(116) Abort mission?

TEKLA
(117) Absolutely not. Let’s get back to work.

A moment later, the Telepod is cleared and stands revealed. Without hesitation, Tekla steps forward to the center of the Telepod, Voxx beside her.

TEKLA
(118) Quickly, Voxx. We have no time to waste.

Before Tekla can even finish, the dome of energy covers the pod. When it vanishes, Voxx and Tekla are gone.

We linger on the Telepod for several beats, to see the Jungle encroaching to envelop it once more, dark, sinister.

EXT. DEEP JUNGLE

as Graveheart and Cryos rush through the undergrowth, hoping to catch up to Femur, still being dragged away.

GRAVEHEART
(119) I thought Tekla said this planet was lifeless?

CRYOS
(120) There appears to be evidence to the contrary.

Suddenly, Graveheart’s WRIST-COMM starts to BEEP. Still running, he raises his wrist to speak to it.

GRAVEHEART
(121) Talk to me, but make it quick.

JADE (VO)
(122) Graveheart, we’ve got Beast incoming.

GRAVEHEART
(123) Great. What <u>else</u> can possibly go wrong?

Suddenly, as if in answer, there is a WHOOSHING in the air, getting stronger as it gets closer.

GRAVEHEART
(124) I had to ask.

Graveheart and Cryos turn now and see the great VEGETABLE TWISTER approaching. They start running, but there's no escaping it. It quickly scoops up Cryos, then Graveheart, who holds on to a clump of vines for all he's worth.

GRAVEHEART
(straining with effort)
(125) Noooooooooo!

But he is grabbed up as well, leaving nothing behind but that calm silence that greeted them when they first arrived.

FADE OUT.

END ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

EXT. DEEP SPACE

The BEAST ARMADA, led by Blokk's command-ship, continues on its way to intercept the Alliance.

INT. WORLD ENGINE CHAMBER

as Tekla and Voxx appear on the matching Telepod. Tekla steps from the Telepod and looks around.

TEKLA
(126) Computer, online please. Computer?

No response.

TEKLA (cont'd)
(127) Voxx, what's wrong?

Voxx irises open and shines a beam of light on the scene.

VOXX
(128) Providing illumination.

CLOSE ON TEKLA

She looks up, stunned by what she sees.

TEKLA
(sotto)
(129) By the Matrix.

REVERSE ANGLE - DOWN VIEW ON TEKLA.

to reveal that the World Engine, the entire chamber, in fact, has been completely overgrown with GIANT ROOTS. The World Engine is beyond repair.

VOXX
(130) World Engine is beyond repair.

TEKLA
(131) Then this world cannot be moved or saved, regardless of any life.

Suddenly, Tekla looks down to see the roots undulating toward her, several long strands reaching for her, menacingly.

TEKLA (cont'd)
(132) I must warn Graveheart...while I still can.

EXT. JUNGLE CENTER

The twister deposits Graveheart and Cryos on the rich jungle floor, then moves on out of sight. Graveheart rouses first.

GRAVEHEART
(133) Cryos, you okay?

Cryos gets to his feet, straightening himself out.

CRYOS
(134) I will be eventually. Any sign of Femur?

GRAVEHEART
(135) None.

CRYOS
(136) Then he must be injured, or we'd surely have heard his whining by --

Cryos stops and Graveheart looks in his direction.

EXT. VENUS FLY TRAP - CRYOS' POV

Not far from them is a Venus Fly Trap-like plant, wicked maw wide open. And hanging directly above the maw is Femur, his eyes wide in fear.

FEMUR
(sotto)

(137) I think maybe...my little bomb...ticked it off...

INT. WORLD ENGINE CHAMBER

Voxx irises open, ready to laser the encroaching roots.

VOXX
(138) Warning! Princess Tekla must not be harmed.

As Voxx prepares to fire, several other roots snap forward from behind him, pulling him down into a tangle of roots, unable to take action.

TEKLA
(139) Voxx!

As Tekla reaches for her own weapon, the roots grab her as well and pull her down.

TEKLA
(140) (strangled GASP!)

EXT. JUNGLE CENTER

Graveheart takes out his blaster and takes aim at one of the vines holding Femur.

GRAVEHEART
(141) Stay very still.

As he tries to steady his weapon on the vine, Zuma appears from the Jungle.

ZUMA (WITH ECHO) (OS)
(142) Graveheart...wait.

Graveheart lowers his gun a bit, as he and Cryos turn to see Zuma.

GRAVEHEART
(143) Zuma? Why aren't you with Tekla?

ZUMA (WITH ECHO)
(144) We were needed more here.

FEMUR
(sotto)
(145) Hey, what about me? You gotta get me --

A vine rises up and, circling around his head, wraps itself around Femur's mouth, filling it so he cannot speak.

FEMUR (cont'd)
(146)
-- (strangled gurgling)

CRYOS
(147) Finally. Silence.

GRAVEHEART
(148) Cryos, this isn't funny. Femur is in danger here.

ZUMA (WITH ECHO)
(149) Perhaps not.

GRAVEHEART
(150) What do you mean?

As Graveheart and Cryos watch, tendrils from the Jungle slowly start to gently wind themselves around Zuma's arms and legs, as if somehow connecting with her.

ZUMA (WITH ECHO)
(151) We have felt this planet's pain, sensed it thoughts...so alien...so strange...

GRAVEHEART
(152) Then this world is alive!

EXT. DRILLING SITE

Weapons in hand, Jade and her Quarriors are about to open fire on various vines that are moving menacingly toward them.

JADE
(153) Lock and load. We will strip this planet bare if we --

Suddenly, Jade's wrist-comm starts BEEPING.

GRAVEHEART (VO)
(154) Jade, whatever you do, do not harm the plants.

CLOSE ON JADE

Still armed, she looks at several vines which continue to move slowly toward her. She's not happy about this.

JADE
(155) Tell me you're not serious.

EXT. JUNGLE CENTER

Graveheart moves toward Zuma and the Venus Fly Trap, hands spread before him, non-threatening.

GRAVEHEART
(156) We are friends. We mean you no harm...

Femur can't believe what's happening, as the vines move away from his mouth, so he can speak again.

FEMUR
(157) Oh, great. "We come in peace". How original.
The vines wrap around Femur’s mouth again, silencing him, as Graveheart moves closer to Zuma and the Fly-trap.

GRAVEHEART
(158) We are travellers from a distant sun. Our homes are threatened by a dark power that will soon consume you.

To Graveheart’s surprise, Zuma now starts to ÒspeakÓ with a STRANGE ALIEN ECHO, her eyes GLOWING GREEN instead of their usual color, to indicate her connection to the plants.

ZUMA (WITH ALIEN ECHO)
(159) Leave...us...alone...

GRAVEHEART
(confused)
(160) Zuma?

CRYOS
(161) No, she is speaking for the plant.

Graveheart continues talking to the plant, ignoring Zuma.

GRAVEHEART
(162) Look, I don’t know how else to say this, but soon the Beast who pursues us will destroy your world as well.

Again, Zuma ÒspeaksÓ for the plant, as Cryos steps forward.

ZUMA (WITH ALIEN ECHO)
(163) So...we..learned.

CRYOS
(164) I have just heard from Tekla, your World Engine is destroyed.We can

still escape the Beast, but there is no hope for you to do the same.

GRAVEHEART
(165) We were going to make your world a weapon against the Beast, but now (pause)...we can't.

ZUMA (WITH ALIEN ECHO)
(166) Is...there..hope..escape...?

CRYOS
(167) None, we fear. All that you are will be gone.

ZUMA (WITH ALIEN ECHO)
(168) Take...us...

CRYOS
(169) We would if we could, but you are simply far too vast.

The plant life TREMBLES for a moment, as if communicating with others around it, then Zuma ÒspeaksÓ again.

ZUMA (WITH ALIEN ECHO)
(170)Stop...Beast...do...as...you...mus t.

The vines holding Femur suddenly slacken and he slips to the ground. Femur comes up rubbing his throat.

FEMUR
(rasping)
(171) Well, that was a million laughs.

As the tendrils withdraw from Zuma as well, Graveheart's wrist-comm BEEPS.

JADE (VO)
(172) Graveheart, we're still drilling.
TEKLA (VO)
(173) No matter. The Telepod can get the explosives to the World Engine now.

Graveheart speaks into his comm.

GRAVEHEART
(174) Then what are we waiting for?

Graveheart, Cryos, Zuma, and Femur start to head back, but GH pauses for a moment, and speaks to the ÒJungleÓ.

GRAVEHEART

(175) Thank you. Your sacrifice will never be forgotten.

INT. WORLD ENGINE CHAMBER

The chamber is now filled with giant bombs that are wired to the World Engine. Femur looks around at his handiwork, while Graveheart and Cryos stand by.

FEMUR
(176) That'll do it. the bomb blast should overload the World Engine power core, causing one humongous chain reaction.

GRAVEHEART
(177) You sure this will work, Femur?

FEMUR
(178) Only one way to find out, ace.

They all step back onto the Telepod and are gone.

EXT. STRATA LANDING SITE

as all the equipment is loaded back onto the Strata, our heroes take one last look around.

TEKLA
(179) The Beast Planet draws near, Graveheart.

GRAVEHEART
(180) Then we'd better make ourselves scarce.

FEMUR
(181) First bright thing anybody's said all --

Femur heads for the Strata, but pauses, surprised, when one of the vines taps him on the shoulder.

FEMUR (cont'd)
(182) -- Huh?

Femur turns around to see one of the vines holding a baby Venus Fly Trap up to him as an offering.

FEMUR
(183) Now what?

ZUMA (WITH ECHO)

(184) It asks you to take that cutting, child.

FEMUR
(185) Me? You're kidding. With my black thumb?

As Femur carefully takes the baby Venus, Zuma's eyes GLOW again, as if listening to the plants.

ZUMA (WITH ECHO)
(186) They are of one mind, child. If any part of Planet Jungle survives, then so does the whole.

TEKLA
(187) Be gentle with it, Femur. You hold the spirit of an entire world in your hands.

Femur looks down at the cutting, then out at the jungle. If it's possible for him to be touched by something, he is.

FEMUR
(188) Swell. Suddenly I'm a daddy.

Then he gets into the Strata, and the hatch closes. An instant later, the ship lifts off.

INT. BLOKK'S SHIP

BLOKK
(190) Well done, Drones. The Beast will be pleased with me...for a change.

Finally, as small explosions erupt here and there on the surface of Planet Jungle, The drone ships scatter.

Suddenly, dramatically, the BEAST PLANET looms into view. The giant claw is released from within, as it takes hold of the Jungle Planet we..

INT. THE AURORA - SOON AFTER

Graveheart, Femur and Cryos stand around the central monitor, watching the Beast Planet beginning to devour Planet Jungle.

FEMUR
(192) This should be sweet. We rigged that mudball to take out a dozen Beasties!

CRYOS

(193) We shall see, Femur. It has begun.

EXT. SPACE

As the Beast Planet opens wide its maw, extends its World Claw, and draws in Planet Jungle.

Just then, as the maw closes, Planet Jungle EXPLODES in a violent cataclysm. The force of the explosion so powerful, the Beast Planet vanishes in a blinding flash, then is obscured by a billowing cloud of dust. Did that actually do it? Have our heroes succeeded?

A beat, a pause, almost interminable...

Then the Beast Planet move through the debris cloud toward us, steady, constant, unrelenting...

PULL BACK - to reveal we're watching this on a viewscreen on the bridge of the Aurora. The crew is obviously upset, Tekla sheds a tear as Cryos speaks.

CRYOS
(194) We have failed. Once again we have sacrificed a world to no avail.

GRAVEHEART
(196) I'm starting to think we'll never be able to stop that thing.

FEMUR
(interrupting)
(197) Gee, will you guys lighten up.

CUT AWAY -REACTION SHOT from Graveheart, Cryos and Jade. Stunned.

FEMUR (cont'd)
(198) Remember, as long as there's life, there's hope.

Femur looks at the baby Fly Trap he holds, gesturing to it like new parent to a baby. Everyones faces drop in shock, is this for real?

FEMUR
(199) Now, if you guys'll excuse me, I think this little guy needs a drink.

Femur heads off humming with his new friend.

FEMUR

(200) He's got the whole world, da da da, he's got the whole world.....

FADE OUT.

THE END